

TRANSCRIPT PREPARED BY THE CLERK OF THE LEGISLATURE
Transcriber's Office

February 23, 1999 LB 243

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: It is withdrawn.

CLERK: (AM)0316, Senator Wehrbein.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: I'd like to withdraw that one, too.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: It is withdrawn.

CLERK: Senator Wehrbein, (AM)0397. (See amendment on page 612 of the Legislative Journal.)

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: That is...I would like to take that one up.

SPEAKER KRISTENSEN: Senator Wehrbein, you're recognized to open on your amendment.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: We'll have a handout here in a minute or two on the...on this amendment. Mr. Speaker, members of the body, this one is, if you recall, we had the discussion on the amount of tuition, percent of tuition level for National Guard members, in the original LB 243. This is an attempt to provide a compromise in the amount of tuition that we would pay for National Guard members. And also I have another that will cap the amount, in this case at \$900,000. This amendment is 75 percent tuition, with a cap of \$900,000 in total. The intent of this is to do approximately full funding at 75 percent of tuition for National Guard members that are presently enrolled, and to provide for approximately some (inaudible) over 100 additional recruits that could be attracted into the program, using the 75 percent tuition. The options were, if you recall, at this present time is the 50 percent. There was a proposal for 100 percent. That is the reason I had several amendments filed. Two weeks ago it was uncertain as to which way this should be done. This is the, I guess, consensus, the best consensus that we could reach. Doing the 75 percent tuition with the cap at \$900,000, this is a significant less amount of money than was in the original bill. I do believe that it will provide some incentive for the Guard to increase their recruiting. It's still a best guess, in many cases, as to how many will take advantage of this program. But this is a proposal that I would make to put on this bill at this time.